In the Indiana Supreme Court

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Sep 29 2015, 3:41 pm
CLERK of the supreme court, court of appeals and
tax court

NATIONAL ADOPTION DAY)	4
AUTHORIZATION TO)	Case No. 94S00-1509-MS-581
BROADCAST COURT PROCEEDINGS)	

ORDER

Notwithstanding the prohibitions against broadcasting, televising, recording, or taking photographs in the courtroom and adjacent areas in the Code of Judicial Conduct Rule 2.17, the Supreme Court will authorize still photography, video, and audio coverage of certain uncontested adoptions in Indiana trial courts on or about National Adoption Day.

National Adoption Day is an effort to raise awareness about children in foster care waiting to find permanent families. Several Indiana trial courts are celebrating National Adoption Day to increase awareness of the value of adoption. The Supreme Court will allow coverage of adoption proceedings under the following terms:

Term. On or about National Adoption Day, which is Saturday, November 21, 2015.

Judges. Trial court judges performing uncontested adoptions can give their consent and express willingness to participate in National Adoption Day by registering through the Indiana Supreme Court's Office of Communication, Education, and Outreach.

Consent. The participating judges are authorized to allow still photography, video, and audio coverage of uncontested adoption proceedings. The judges have full discretion in allowing or denying the press and public to use electronic devices to capture the proceedings. The judges shall ensure the consent of the parties. This order permitting electronic coverage does not authorize public access to the documents and records of the proceeding.

Transmission and Use of Content. Media may use still photography, video, and audio for news purposes and families may use an electronic device to capture and preserve the event.

Equipment. The equipment used to capture the proceedings must not be intrusive of the judicial process and must be operated from areas specifically designated by the court.

Decorum. Media personnel are to be non-intrusive to the judicial process. Personnel may enter and leave at the discretion of the judge. Courtroom proceedings shall not be disrupted or interrupted. Appropriate attire is required.

The Clerk is directed to send copies of this order to every Indiana circuit and superior court clerk for distribution to the judges served by their offices; and to Supreme Court Chief Public Information Officer Kathryn Dolan.

Done at Indianapolis, Indiana, on 9/29/2015

Loretta H. Rush

Chief Justice of Indiana